

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 02939 201018Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 DODE-00 PER-01 A-01 OPR-02 PA-01 /048 W
----- 065090 /16

R 200900Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7483
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL UDORN
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2939

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AFSP APER PFOR LA US TH
SUBJ: ADDITIONAL EMBASSY EMPLOYEES FLEE THE LPDR

REF: A. VIENTIANE 2904, B. VIENTIANE 2857, C. VIENTIANE
2806

1. FOUR EMBASSY EMPLOYEES (THREE THAI TCN'S AND ONE LAO)
DEPARTED FOR THAILAND OVER THE WEEKEND (DECEMBER 18-19).
TWO OF THE THREE THAI TCN'S, SOMMAI SALIKORN AND SOMKUAN
CHALERMSRI, WERE PARTICIPANTS IN THE FIRST DAY OF THE THREE
DAY WEEKEND SEMINAR (REF B) AND DECIDED TO LEAVE THE LPDR
TELLING EMBOFFS THAT THEY HAD BEEN INTIMIDATED AT THE FIRST
DAY'S SEMINAR BY TWO LAO WHO FOLLOWED THEM ABOUT AND SAT NEXT
TO THEM THROUGHOUT THE DAY. (SEPTTEL FOLLOWS REPORTING ON
THE FIRST WEEKEND OF SEMINARS FOR FOREIGN MISSION EMPLOYEES.)
SOMMAI AND SOMKUAN HAD GONE TO THAILAND DECEMBER 11 PROMPTING
REPORT REF A THAT THEY HAD DEPARTED PERMANENTLY BUT THEY SUB-
SEQUENTLY RETURNED DECEMBER 14.

2. THE THIRD THAI TO FLEE WAS THE EMBASSY'S SENIOR TCN MANOO
YAMBANE, ALSO REPORTED REF A AS LEAVING PERMANENTLY BUT WHO
RETURNED DECEMBER 14.

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3. USIS FSL THAVONE SITHISAIYA INFORMED ACTING PAO DECEMBER 19
THAT HE WAS CROSSING INTO THAILAND. HE SAID THAT HE WAS BEING
HARASSED BY VILLAGE AUTHORITIES AND WAS FEARFUL OF WHAT MIGHT
HAPPEN TO HIM. (NEITHER MANOO NOR THAVONE WERE AMONG THOSE
LISTED TO ATTEND WEEKEND SEMINAR DECEMBER 17-19.)

4. GROWING PRESSURE ON THAI TCN'S HAS REDUCED EMBASSY'S THAI NATIONAL COMPLEMENT TO SIX (INCLUDING ONE INCARCERATED BY THE LPDR, REF C, WHO REMAINS IN PRISON) AND WE EXPECT THAT NUMBER WILL BE FURTHER REDUCED.

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Message Attributes

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